

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 OIC-02 SAB-02  
DLOS-06 SAL-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 SS-15  
NSC-05 /084 W  
-----222130 003156/73

R 221927Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9222  
INFO USUN NEW YORK 698  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1415

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SENV, UN, OCON  
SUBJECT: UN WATER CONFERENCE

REF: (A) 76 BUENOS AIRES 7592, (B) USUN 60, (C) USUN 260,  
(D) STATE 35686

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. S&T COUNSELOR AND EMBOFF HELD GENERAL TOUR D'HORIZON ON WATER  
CONFERENCE WITH CONFAGUA PRESIDENT JAUREGUI TOUCHING ADMINISTRA-  
TIVE AND SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS.

2. PRESIDENCY OF CONFERENCE. ARGENTINA EXPECTS THAT HEAD OF ITS  
DEL WILL BE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE. JAUREGUI EXPECTS TO  
HEAD DEL, HENCE NOW EXPECTS TO BE ELECTED CONFERENCE PRESIDENT.

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3. SCHEDULE. JAUREGUI UNDERSTANDS THE ORGANIZATION MEETING FOR  
HEADS OF DEL WILL BE HELD MARCH 12 AND (IF NECESSARY) MARCH 13.  
THE UN WILL SPONSOR A LARGE MEETING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS  
ON MARCH 11. THE ARG. DEL AS HOSTS ARE PLANNING LARGE OPENING AND  
CLOSING RECEPTIONS THE EVENINGS OF MARCH 14 AND 25 PLUS AN  
ARGENTINE "ASADO" ON MARCH 19. PRESIDENT VIDELA WILL ADDRESS  
THE OPENING SESSION AT 11:00 ON MARCH 14.

4. PARTICIPATION. JAUREGUI EXPECTS SOME 2500 DELEGATES IN ALL. MANY DELS WILL BE HEADED BY CABINET MINISTERS.

5. SOUTH AFRICA. JAUREGUI UNDERSTANDS THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN INVITED BY UN, AS IT HAS TO ALL UN MEETINGS. IT HAS NOT RPT NOT YET ACCEPTED SO FAR AS HE KNOWS, AND JAUREGUI DOUBTS IT WILL ATTEND. IF IT DOES, HE EXPECTS CONSIDERABLE TROUBLE.

6. ARGENTINE ATTITUDE TOWARD CONFERENCE. JAUREGUI RECOGNIZES THAT BILATERAL WATER ISSUES MAY WELL COME IN AND WILL EXPECT TO COPE WITH THEM. HE IS MORE WORRIED ABOUT EXTRANEIOUS POLITICAL ISSUES ARISING AND DIVERTING CONFERENCE FROM ITS INTENDED FOCUS ON POLICY IS TO AVOID BILATERAL AND EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES BECOMING THE FOCUS OF THE CONFERENCE, WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

7. PANAMA CANAL. JAUREGUI CONTINUES TO THINK THIS IS A LIKELY BILATERAL ISSUE TO SURFACE AT THE CONFERENCE AND URGED US TO PROGRESS IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH PANAMA SO AS TO AVOID THIS IF POSSIBLE.

8. FARRAKA BARRAGE. BANGLADESH WILL BE REPRESENTED. INDIA HAS NOT RPT NOT YET INDICATED WHETHER IT WILL.

9. SHARED RESOURCES. IN SPIRIT OF LIMA ECLA MEETING AND NEW YORK PREPARATORY MEETINGS, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS ALSO IN THE UN SUMMARY REPORT, ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL ARE AGREED ON THE LIMA LANGUAGE AND WILL BE URGING ITS ACCEPTANCE BY THE CONFERENCE. ARGENTINA WILL NOT RPT NOT RAISE PARANA RIVER ISSUES, AND FEELS THESE  
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SHOULD BE LEFT TO BILATERAL OR REGIONAL (PLATTE BASIN) DISCUSSIONS, ACCORDING TO JAUREGUI.

10. TECHNICAL SEMINARS. WE UNDERSTAND THERE WILL BE GOOD PARTICIPATION OF FOREIGN EXPERTS IN THE PARALLEL SEMINARS.

11. COMMENT: WE THINK JAUREGUI WOULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE CANDIDATE FOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT WHO WILL DO HIS BEST TO KEEP CONFERENCE ON THE TRACK TOWARDS THE IMPORTANT GOALS. HE LACKS DIPLOMATIC EXPERTISE IN MANAGING THE IN-FIGHTING AND IN PRESIDING OVER SUCH A LARGE GATHERING, THUS WOULD HAVE TO LEARN QUICKLY AND RELY HEAVILY ON THE UN STAFF. GIVEN THE DEVELOPING ATMOSPHERE, WE STRONGLY ENDORSE USUN'S RECOMMENATION OF REFTEL (B).  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Reference:** 76 BUENOS AIRES 7592, 77 USUN NEW YORK 60, 77 USUN NEW YORK 260, 77 STATE 35686  
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**Subject:** UN WATER CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** SENV, OCON, AR, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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